

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Bryan et al.

SERIAL NO.: Continuation of Serial No. 09/783,910

GROUP ART UNIT:

FILED: August 8, 2001 EXAMINER:

FOR: IMPLANTABLE JOINT PROSTHESIS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 46739/250564

Assistant Commissioner for
Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

DATE: August 8, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to any examination on the merits, please amend the specification as indicated below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first paragraph of the specification to read as follows:

This application is a continuation of Serial No. 09/783,910, filed February 13, 2001, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of Provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/223,863, filed 8 August 2000, and entitled INSTRUMENTATION AND METHOD FOR IMPLANTING A PROSTHETIC INTERVERTEBRAL BODY and

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of Provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/265,218 entitled GRAVITY ASSISTED
LOCALIZATION SYSTEM, filed January 31, 2001.

MARKED UP COPY OF SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPHS

This application is a continuation of Serial No. 09/783,910, filed February 13, 2001, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of Provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/223,863, filed 8 August 2000, and entitled INSTRUMENTATION AND METHOD FOR IMPLANTING A PROSTHETIC INTERVERTEBRAL BODY and of Provisional U.S. Serial No. 60/265,218 entitled GRAVITY ASSISTED LOCALIZATION SYSTEM, filed January 31, 2001 [under Express Mail Label Number EL674301928US].

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the first paragraph of the specification to claim benefit of the parent application. No new matter has been added.

In addition, Applicants have added several new claims to the application, and have modified inventorship of the application to reflect the presence of the new claims.

Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment in fees to Deposit

Order Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



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